PHEASANTS FOREVER & QUAIL FOREVER
The Habitat Organization
Job Vacancy Announcement

Precision Agriculture Conservation Specialist (PACS)

Application Deadline: March 3, 2021

Location: This position will be based out of West Point, Indiana, with office space located in the Ceres Solutions branch office. Significant time will be spent in the field working with farmers, agronomists, and conservation agencies, as well as travel to other Ceres Solutions locations throughout Indiana.

Anticipated Start Date: March 2021 (Negotiable)

Overview: In cooperation and with support from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, Ceres Solutions, and Land O’Lakes Truterra; Pheasants Forever Inc. is seeking a talented individual to apply his or her skills to advance sustainable agricultural practices and environmental outcomes focusing on soil health, water quality, and wildlife habitat. Specifically, the incumbent will utilize precision agriculture data and analyses generated by the Truterra Insights Engine to identify opportunities for conservation practice implementation to increase farm sustainability. The PACS will serve as a conservation leader in the area to foster and expand collaborative public-private partnerships with Ceres Solutions agronomists/staff, state and federal conservation agencies, and other organizations that help advance a voluntary, incentive-based approach to private lands conservation. The incumbent will lead efforts to enhance coordination, training, and information for the farming community so that both the public and private sector organizations can provide integrated and complementary conservation assistance to their shared customers.

Primary Responsibilities:

Information and Education

- Work with Ceres Solutions precision ag and agronomy staff to build capacity and expertise concerning natural resource conservation practices and USDA and state cost-share programs.
- Provide and coordinate training opportunities for Ceres Solutions staff on state and USDA conservation programs to improve awareness, farmer access to assistance, and on-the-ground coordination with conservation staff and organizations, such as PF/QF Farm Bill Biologists, Indiana Division of Fish and Wildlife Private Lands Biologists, and NRCS Field Office staff.
- Provide training and information to conservation agencies and organizations on modern production agriculture systems, including precision ag, nutrient and pest management, and other agronomic services that improve productivity while minimizing natural resource impacts.
- With partners, develop and implement workshops and field days designed to educate farmers, farm- and farmer-led/support organizations on best practices and other innovative conservation systems that benefit wildlife habitat, water quality, soil health, and farm productivity.

Technical Assistance:
Serve as a leader to advance public-private partnerships through state and federal conservation programs, such as USDA’s Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP), Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP), Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP), Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), and other relevant state and local programs.

Work with Ceres Solutions agronomists and their clients to utilize the Truterra Insights Engine and present conservation solutions for sustainability and profitability.

Work closely and build and maintain good working relationships with conservation agency/organization technical staff, Ceres Solutions agronomists, and other resource management professionals, both public and private, in support of a holistic approach to the management of natural resources.

Connect Ceres Solutions staff and their clients with PF/QF Farm Bill Biologists and other conservation technical assistance providers to explore options for technical and financial assistance through USDA Farm Bill Programs and other state/local conservation implementation and incentive programs.

Track, compile and report accomplishments for partnership accountability and growth.

Work as a member of a team to develop innovative strategies for implementing conservation solutions that increase farm productivity, based on Truterra Insights Engine data.

**Required Knowledge Skills and Abilities:**

- Demonstrated experience as a leader with strong initiative.
- Ability to work with multiple partners to accomplish common objectives and recruit new partners.
- Strong customer relation and interpersonal skills; ability to communicate effectively, and excellent attention to detail.
- Ability to make initial contacts and develop new relationships.
- Self-motivated and able to work independently without close supervision and with diverse clientele.
- Demonstrated knowledge of modern farm equipment and techniques, technology, and agronomic and conservation practices common to Indiana and the Midwest.
- Valid driver’s license required. Work vehicle provided.

**Education and Experience Guideline:** Applicants for this position should possess a minimum of a bachelor’s degree in Agriculture, Agronomy, Ag Systems Technology, Ag Business, or a Natural Resources field with relevant agricultural experience. Direct experience working on a farm operation is strongly preferred. A passion for agriculture, the outdoors, conservation, wildlife and working directly with farmers and other ag and conservation professionals is highly desired.

**Salary:** Commensurate with qualifications and experience, plus benefits

**Application Requirements:** combine your cover letter, resume and 3 references as a single word document or PDF file before uploading to our Recruitment website at: [www.pheasantsforever.org/jobs](http://www.pheasantsforever.org/jobs). If you have additional questions about the position, please contact Kent Adams, PFQF Director of Field Operations (East Region), [kadams@pheasantsforever.org](mailto:kadams@pheasantsforever.org).

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